

will never grow dim, was for some time stationed as first lieutenant of First Regiment of Dragoons, Company E., at Fort Gibson. This was in 1834 and 1835, shortly after his graduation from West Point and while he was still a young man. He remained at Fort Gibson until ordered to take part in the Black Hawk War, an expedition against the Pawnees in which the Shawnee leader Tecumseh and his brother, The Prophet, were the chief instigators. Jefferson Davis was an officer in the Texas war for independence, afterwards a United States Senator from Mississippi, and finally the first and last President of the Confederacy. The house occupied by this distinguished Confederate Chieftain was still standing until quite recently, a historic and interesting memento of an era that has passed. This building was quite a pretentious log house erected in 1824 and has been more frequently photographed and copied by artists than any other one house in Indian Territory.

So here is an obscure but picturesque little Indian village of never more than one thousand inhabitants, whose citizens have been intimates and associates of the Presidents of three different republics.

“You are the schpeaker?”

“Yes, sir, I am.”

“Vel, vot you schpeak about?”

“My subject, sir, is this: Resolved, that I will never believe anything I do not understand.”

“Oh my! Is dot it? Vell now, you shoost take von leetle example. There, you see my pasture. The horse he eat the grass, und it came up hair all over his pack. Then my sheep he eat the same grass und it grow wool all over him. And vot you think? My goose he eat the grass too, and sure's I tell you, it comes all over him feathers. You understand dot, do you! Heigh!”